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SITTING WELL WITH
SOME IN DOWNTOWN
HALIFAX**

metroNEWS

JEFF HARPER/METRO



TICKETS TO RIDE

**Cheaper bus passes
coming again for
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**Exhibition in
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Test scores going up

EDUCATION

Slight jump for Indigenous, African-Nova Scotian students



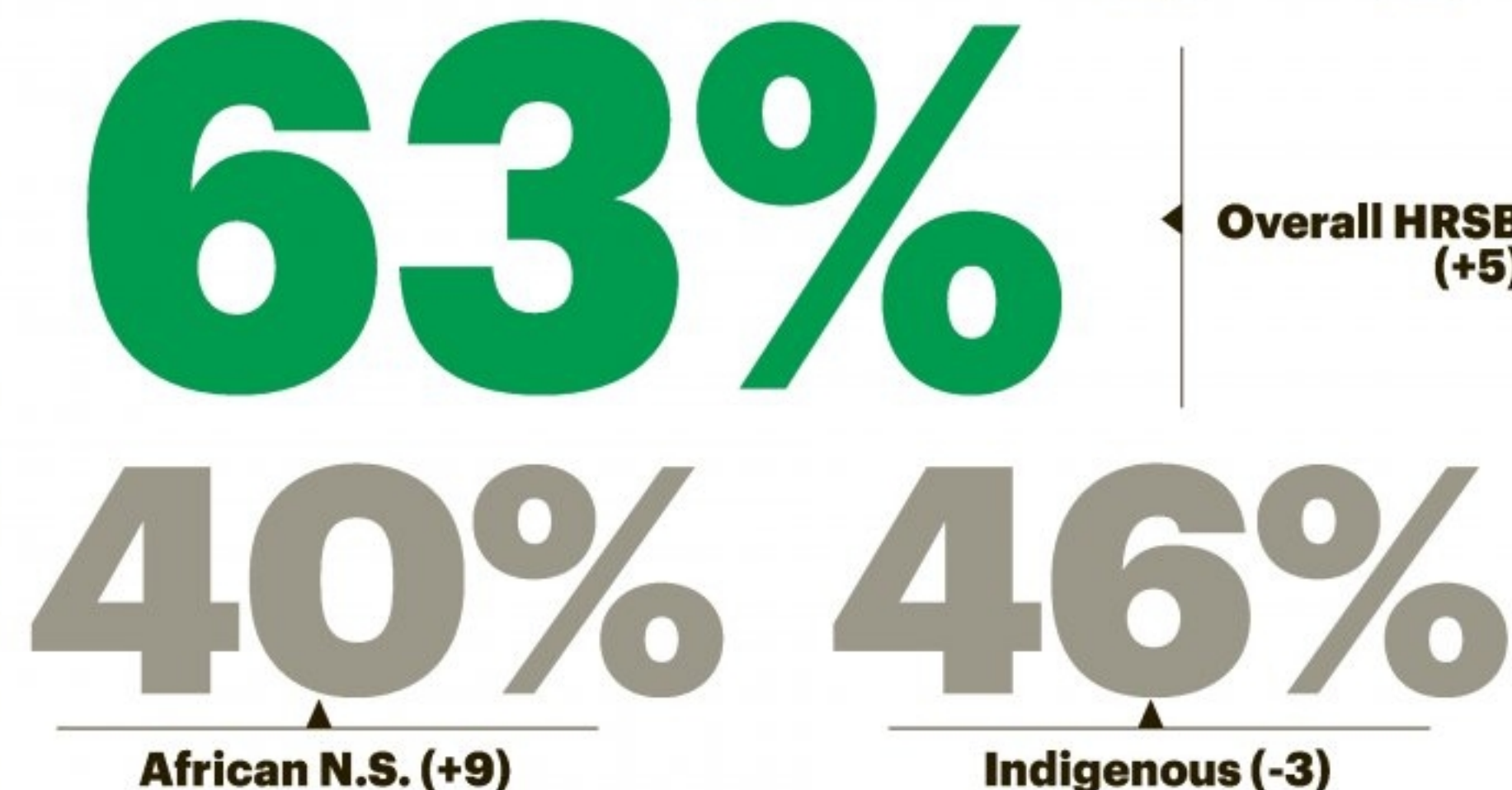
Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

Although the Halifax school board superintendent says there's more work to be done to bring up test results for African Nova Scotian and Indigenous students, recent increases show a step in the "right direction."

The Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) received 2015-2016 provincial assessment results for Grades 8 and 10 in mathematics and literacy this past December, but they weren't made public until a meeting Wednesday. The numbers show improvement in all assessments at the Grade 8 level for African Nova Scotian students, including in Math where they went up nine per cent compared to the previous year, bringing them to 40 per cent scoring at or above expectation.

Superintendent Elwin LeRoux told the board that staff have been working on culturally relevant teaching methods, like how math relates to the "lived experience of students," plus having African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaq support workers connect with families and help relate students' context to teachers.

However, compared to the overall HRSB math result of 63 per cent, there's still a large gap for African Nova Scotian students



Above are the percentages of students scoring at or above expectation for Grade 8 Math, with indicators in brackets on whether it went up or down from the previous year.

and Indigenous students (who scored 46 per cent at or above expectation).

Other increases included a four per cent jump for African Nova Scotian students where 64 percent scored at or above the expectation in reading, nine per cent jump in Math 10 to 54 per cent, and Indigenous students outperformed the overall HRSB result by nine percent in Math at Work 10. LeRoux said there's obviously additional work to do, "but I think the significant thing is we're going in the right direction."

Below are some student results showing percentages at or above expectation, with indicators in brackets on whether they went up or down from the previous year:

Grade 8

Reading :
Overall HRSB: 76%.
African N.S.: 60%. Indigenous: 66% (-14)

Writing categories of ideas, organization:
Overall HRSB: 91%, 80%.
African N.S.: 84%, 67% (+11, +3).
Indigenous: 85%, 70% (+2, +9)

Math:
Overall HRSB: 63% (+5). African N.S.:-

40% (+9). Indigenous: 46% (-3).

Grade 10

Reading :
Overall HRSB: 78%. African N.S.: 64% (+4). Indigenous: 77%

Writing categories of ideas, organization:
Overall HRSB: 69%, 65%. African N.S.: 53%, 47%. Indigenous: 62%, 57%.

Math 10:
Overall HRSB: 72% (+4). African N.S.: 54% (+9). Indigenous: 71% (+11).

Math At Work 10:
Overall HRSB: 54% (+3). African N.S.: Unknown (+1). Indigenous: 63%

EDUCATION

Premier 'prepared to act'

Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil says teachers can trust his government to improve classroom conditions as they consider how to vote on the latest tentative agreement in the long-simmering contract dispute.

Following Thursday's cabinet meeting, McNeil made a passionate plea when asked why teachers should trust his government.

"When I became the premier I thought this (education) was going to be the one place that I was going to leave an impact," said McNeil. "Clearly teachers haven't felt that and I understand that."

McNeil said he wants to make it clear to teachers that he is committed to making changes to classroom conditions, and that there is money to make those changes. But he says teachers have to engage the government.

"I am prepared to act and move on classroom conditions. I am prepared to make changes in how we deliver education, but I need my partners to come to the table and have this conversation."

McNeil said he believes the latest tentative agreement with the Nova Scotia Teachers Union responds to classroom concerns while meeting the province's need to contain public sector salary costs.

However, he expressed frustration that over three separate sets of negotiations the union hasn't been able to "hit the mark" on what classroom teachers are looking for.

McNeil also confirmed one of the key provisions in the agreement, the creation of a commission on classroom inclusion.

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Five things to do this weekend

From sex show to bagpipes, an afternoon with royals and a skating challenge, there's a lot going on around Halifax

YVETTE D'ENTREMONT METRO

1 Polar Vortex Skate Challenge

Lace up your skates and get ready for a marathon of a different kind with the Polar Vortex Challenge skate on Sunday at the Emera Oval. Choose from a 5K or 10K skate or skip the challenge and do a fun 3K non-competitive event. Register at www.raceroster.com by Friday at 11:59 p.m. Event starts at 8 a.m. with the 5K skate, 8:45 a.m. for the 10K skate and 9:45 a.m. for the 3K.

2 Everything To Do With Sex Show

Spice up your life with live erotic art performances, a kinky playroom, stage shows, seminars and some shopping. The largest consumer romance show in the Maritimes celebrates its ninth anniversary in Halifax and runs from Friday to Sunday at the Cunard Centre. Tickets and information at www.halifax.everythingtodowithsex.com

3 A Royal Afternoon

Chapters in Dartmouth is presenting A Royal Afternoon featuring well-known and loved royalty drawn from books, movies and popular culture. The event will feature stories, photo opportunities, colouring and more. It runs from noon until 3 p.m. on Sunday.



Skaters get on the Emera Oval earlier this year. JEFF HARPER/METRO

4 Disney Books Giveaway

More than 2,000 new children's Disney books have been donated to Literacy Nova Scotia and will be handed out as part of Family Literacy Day this Saturday. Join authors Sheree Fitch and Starr Dobson, HRM Poet Laureate Rebecca Thomas and other invited guests for the book giveaway at the Dartmouth North Community Centre from noon until 4 p.m. The event includes live music, public readings and snacks.

5 Pipers Club Atlantic Show

Does the skirl of bagpipes touch your soul? Saturday evening's 7 p.m. show at the Old Triangle Alehouse in Halifax features solo piper James MacHattie, a quartet performance by the College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada in addition to a featured ceilidh performance with Ben Miler and Anita MacDonald. Purchase of a Pipers Club Atlantic subscription ticket gives guaranteed entry to all three events scheduled for the 2017 season. Visit www.pipersclub.ca for more information.

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Low income bus pass program expanding

SUBSIDIES

Up to 1,000 can now apply for city transit at reduced price



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

A municipal pilot project offering low income bus passes is being expanded.

On Thursday, Halifax regional council's transportation standing committee approved implementation of an annual low income transit pass program for up to 1,000 qualified applicants.

That doubles the 500 passes offered during the first phase of the pilot project, which rolled out last September.

The project gives those who don't already have a bus pass through other social assistance, and who have annual incomes

of less than \$33,000, the opportunity to apply for subsidized monthly bus passes for half of the regular fee — \$39 a month for a regular pass.

The initial six-month phase was set to end next month. The committee also approved continuing that from March 1 to June 30 for existing participants.

"I've spoken to many residents in my district that have benefited from this program," Harbourview-Burnside-Dartmouth East Coun. Tony Mancini said during the meeting. "It's breaking down more barriers... This program is fantastic."

The next phase, set to run for a full year, begins July 1. Applicants will be taken on a first come, first served basis.

A staff report presented to the committee noted that a permanent low income transit pass program for 1,000 applicants could cost about \$160,000 in reduced revenue, which would have to be accommodated in the 2017/2018 budget approval process.



The next phase of the affordable transit project will begin on July 1. METRO FILE PHOTO

TRANSPORTATION

All city routes to use that 'soothing voice'



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

The "soothing voice" you might have heard on buses like the 80 is rolling out on all Halifax Transit routes starting on Monday.

The stop announcements started sounding on select routes last month as part of a pilot project designed to iron out any kinks in the system.

One thing Halifax Transit has fixed after that pilot is an issue where stop announcements would "jam up" in the queue, and then begin playing later during the route," a release from the

municipality said.

"This issue appeared at random times, regardless of the bus type and the route, but staff worked with the vendor to implement a solution, which has been applied on the entire bus fleet," a statement read.

Another issue that came up is the high volume of the announcements. The audio level has been adjusted, and staff are working on implementing a feature that will automatically adjust volume based on ambient noise in the bus.

The announcements are designed to help those with impaired hearing and vision.

IN BRIEF

RCMP charge two in fight involving table leg, knife

Antigonish RCMP have charged two men involved in a fight that took place in Petow Loop on Jan. 23.

According to a release, one man had his hands cut by a table leg and another was hospitalized after being stabbed several times.

Terry Julian, 32, was charged with two counts of assault with a weapon and for unlawfully being in a house and will appear in court on Feb. 15. Issiah Julian, 20, will appear in court March 1 for aggravated assault and two counts of failing to comply with conditions. METRO



South Park Street Bike Lane Improvements Public Engagement Session

Planning is underway to enhance the existing South Park Street bike lanes (Sackville Street to Morris Street) and to extend the bike lanes south to Inglis Street.

Please join us for an update on the project and to provide feedback on the latest design work.

Tuesday, January 31, 2017
6:30-8:30 p.m. (Presentation at 7 p.m.)
Halifax Central Library, Lindsay Children's Room

halifax.ca/cycling

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A life-size carving of former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau by artist Walter Cook in the exhibit **Confederation — 150 Years: 23 Prime Ministers**. THE CANADIAN PRESS/DARREN CALABRESE.



A sculpture of former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker by artist Joe Fafard at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia in Halifax. THE CANADIAN PRESS/DARREN CALABRESE.

A new twist on 23 old classics

ART

Gallery shows a different side of Canada's prime ministers

It's John Diefenbaker as you've never seen him — standing on a chair, an intricate miniature statue of the 13th prime minister in a quirky exhibition that captures 150 years of Canadian political history.

Canada's 23 prime ministers are presented with both majesty and mischief at the exhibit at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia to mark the country's 150th birthday.

It features artwork in a variety of mediums — from paintings

and engraved stamps, to editorial cartoons and statues.

"I really fear that kids today don't get much history," said Dianne O'Neill, a curator at the gallery. "This exhibit at least gives people an introduction to Canada's prime ministers and maybe suggests some of the excitement that is in our past."

The gallery largely relied on its own collection, but got creative with prime ministers in the 20th century "simply because the formal drawings and prints just don't happen anymore," said O'Neill.

One piece is something you can find in your wallet: a \$50 banknote. The bill bears the face of William Lyon Mackenzie King, the country's 10th prime minister, who served on-and-off between 1921 and 1948.



This exhibit at least suggests some of the excitement that is in our past. Dianne O'Neill

"Art takes many forms," said O'Neill.

The collection begins with a lithograph of the iconic 1864 scene from Charlottetown, when delegates — including future prime ministers Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Charles Tupper — met to discuss Confederation.

"It seemed logical to build an exhibition around this piece," said O'Neill, adding that Robert Harris's original painting "The Fathers of Confederation" burned in a fire on Parliament Hill in 1916.

The gallery was given the lithograph a few years ago and has been trying to think of a way

to build an exhibition around it ever since, she said.

Given that this year marks the sesquicentennial of Confederation, it made sense to recall the country's leaders and to offer them up in a mixture of artistic styles, she said.

"I've always said I could produce an exhibition on any topic — it's just a way of twisting it. Confederation as a theme, I couldn't do. But prime ministers are an integral part of it."

Nearby is an editorial cartoon of Canada's 11th prime minister: Richard Bedford Bennett, who was in office in the early 1930s.

Bennett, who was perceived

by many to be a one-man show, is depicted a number of times in the 1931 cartoon by Arch Dale. Five separate Bennetts are shown seated around a table with one exclaiming: "There are too many of us. We must cut ourselves down by four!"

Among some of the exhibit's other oddities are two sets of engraved stamps. Arthur Meighen's face is shown 100 times on a blue stamp sheet of the 9th prime minister, who served two brief terms in the 1920s. Each stamp is marked five cents.

There are also four engraved stamps of Sir John Abbott, the country's first native-born prime minister, who accepted the role of Canada's third leader reluctantly in 1891 when Macdonald died.

The exhibit features a large

wooden statue by Walter Cook of former prime minister Pierre Trudeau and two Joe Fafard statues: One of Diefenbaker standing on a red chair and another of Sir John Thompson — Canada's fourth prime minister — sitting with his hat resting on his knee and his left hand stroking a dog.

Art of Canada's prime ministers from the last two decades are mostly editorial cartoons, one of which features Canada's 19th and only woman prime minister, Kim Campbell.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ CHECK IT OUT

The exhibition will be at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia until March 26.

THINK BEFORE YOU PARK

When and where you park during the winter can have a big impact on clearing.

The municipality is stepping up winter parking enforcement in areas around hospitals and schools, bus routes and problem streets for emergency vehicles and clearing equipment. Plan ahead. Walk, carpool, take the bus or make arrangements for off-street parking when the overnight parking ban is in effect or there is bad weather in the forecast.

Learn more at:
halifax.ca/snow

HALIFAX

Double the trouble: City looks to hike ticket costs

PARKING

Business owner says raise may keep people out of downtown



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

A downtown Halifax business owner is calling the idea to hike some parking tickets to \$50 “ridiculous,” but the municipality says it could cut down on people hogging street parking all day.

Gordon Stevens, founder of the Uncommon Group, said he was surprised to see staff recommend the minimum ticket price go up to \$50 for meter infractions in a presentation made to regional council’s committee of whole on Wednesday.

“It’s completely ridiculous. We’ve been fighting ... the perception that parking is a problem in downtown,” Stevens said Thursday.

“With all the complaints that businesses have had about HRM and construction mitigation and everything else, you would think that the last thing they’d want to do is to just give people another reason not to go downtown — but that’s precisely what they’re doing.”

Chief city planner Bob Bjerke presented the proposed 2017-18 multi-year budget and



A parking ticket sits on a vehicle Thursday. City staff are recommending the minimum parking meter ticket price go up to \$50 from \$25. JEFF HARPER/METRO

business plan, which included the suggestion to bring up minimum parking meter ticket fines from \$25 to \$50 to fall more in line with the rest of the country.

According to the presentation, Moncton tickets start at \$45, Ottawa \$40, Toronto and Calgary \$30, and Vancouver \$70.

HRM spokesman Brendan Elliott said staff’s perspective is that \$25 isn’t enough of a consequence for people to follow

the rules, and an increase would make people “think twice” before they decided to let their meters run out, or feed the meter all day with their car in the same spot.

When asked about Stevens’ concerns about the change scaring people away, Elliott said HRM takes a different view that businesses would rather see parking spots “cycled through” by many people staying for short periods of time, rather

than visitors getting discouraged to see certain cars parking in one spot all day.

“That’s not a space that someone who is coming down to do some shopping would be able to use,” Elliott said.

“We are really trying to encourage people that when the parking limit is done, that they move and allow for someone else to come in.”

However, Stevens said it’s not likely the change would target

+ OTHER OPTIONS

The Downtown Halifax Business Commission released a Downtown Parking Pitch on Thursday, referencing concerns with a ticket hike and suggesting alternatives like: a mobile parking app; pay-by-plate; integrated pricing between on and off-street parking; limited free, off-street parking; rational enforcement; reinvestment of parking revenues; variable parking signs; and a Downtown shuttle.

those “repeat offenders” since they’re already used to moving spaces throughout the day.

“This doesn’t change that behaviour in the least. If anything it’ll make it worse because they’re more diligent about not getting a ticket,” he said.

The people who will be hit the hardest are those running back from visiting local shops a few blocks away and might buy a couple minutes over their meter time, Stevens said.

The hike could come to regional council sometime soon for a vote, but would only apply to tickets from meter infractions since HRM can’t change tickets related to fire hydrants, loading zones, or “parking over time specified” areas like 30 minutes or an hour, without provincial approval.

Halifax DIGEST

AIRPORT TRAVEL

Halifax airport sets sky high goals after record 2016

After setting a record for passengers served in 2016, the Halifax Stanfield International Airport is aiming higher for 2017.

In 2016, the airport had 3,908,799 passengers and has a goal of four million for 2017.

Most of the traffic, 84 per cent, came from passengers travelling within Canada. It was a 7.4 per cent increase from 2015 with increased service from WestJet, Air Canada and NewLeaf. Traffic to the U.S. dipped slightly.

The remaining 8 per cent was international flights, down 4.2 per cent, partly due to fewer flights to London and Punta Cana. METRO

ATLANTIC CANADA

Storm knocks out power, closes schools

More than 80,000 customers were still without power in many parts of New Brunswick early Thursday after a blustery mix of freezing rain, ice pellets and strong winds moved through the Maritimes.

NB Power said at the height of the storm, more than 130,000 customers were affected Wednesday. Much of the outages Thursday were in a band that ran down the eastern edge of the province and into southern communities.

The freezing rain pelted much of northern New Brunswick, closing schools throughout the province Wednesday and Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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With your support The Salvation Army provides food, clothing, and shelter to those in need throughout the year.

HST REVENUE

Feds ask province to repay millions

Nova Scotia says Ottawa is asking it to pay back HST revenue that was overpaid in recent years.

Finance Minister Randy Delorey says he can't confirm reports that the figures owed by the four Atlantic provinces amount to hundreds of millions of dollars.

But Delorey does say Nova Scotia's portion is less than \$100 million.

He says the harmonized sales

tax overpayment will be reflected in the upcoming spring budget.

Delorey won't say what the loss of revenue will mean for the province's attempts to remain in the black.

In the December fiscal update, the province said it had a slim surplus of \$12.1 million, although that figure was \$5 million less than estimated in last April's budget. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOSPITAL

Arrests over threat



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

Police have arrested two teenage boys in connection with a Thursday morning incident that involved yelling and making reference to "getting explosives."

In a media release, Halifax Regional Police said at about 8:39 a.m., two boys entered the Centennial Building at 1276 South Park St. in Halifax, yell-

ing and swearing. They made reference to getting explosives.

Police searched the area with the assistance of the K-9 and explosive disposal units but nothing suspicious was located.

At about 9:30 a.m., patrol officers located two suspects in the 6000 block of Coburg Road. The two boys, both 17-year-olds from Halifax, were arrested without incident and are in police custody.

The investigation into possible charges is ongoing.



The LifeFlight helicopters are expected to reduce patient transport times by 10 to 25 minutes. METRO FILE

Speedier LifeFlight coming

HEALTH

Improved air ambulances will save lives, province says

Nova Scotia says its LifeFlight air ambulance service will resume hospital helipad landings by Aug. 1.

Health Minister Leo Glavine says the province has signed a \$105-million deal with Canadian Helicopters Ltd. for two higher-performance Sikorsky S-76 C+ helicopters that will reduce transport times by 10 to 25 minutes.

"It really gets that patient to the critical care they need faster, or it gets the teams to the patient faster," Emergency Health Services director Larry Crewson said Thursday.

"For critical care patients, and that's who's moved by a helicopter, that can make all the difference in the world. You're talking at least a 15-minute time savings on every mission."

Crewson said the change will "absolutely" save lives.

The two Sikorskys will be

able to land on helipads at the IWK Children's Hospital and the Infirmary hospital site in Halifax, as well as at Digby General Hospital, he said.

The province's previous deal with Canadian Helicopters was for a single Sikorsky S-76 that has not been able to land on hospital helipads since April due to federal regulation changes.

Crewson said the two Sikorskys have about a decade of service elsewhere, and need to be refitted with a medical interior.

"You're going from about a 70 per cent reliability to a 98

per cent reliability. It's safer for the crew flying the machine, it's safer for the patients, it's faster response time, great range, so it's quite a value," Crewson said.

He said the 15-year deal will cost about \$5.9-million in its first year, up from about \$3.6 million for the single, less versatile Sikorsky. Only one of the two Sikorskys will be in use at any time, to allow for servicing.

Nova Scotia's LifeFlight service is also often used by the other Maritime provinces, he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

STORMWATER SERVICE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

THE PAST - Stormwater fees, distinct from taxation, have existed since 1997. A wastewater/stormwater management charge was initially levied by HRM in 1997 and collected on the water bill by Halifax Water for HRM. At that time, only customers with piped wastewater service received a bill. Residents serviced by ditches and culverts did not pay, but were still provided the service by HRM through funds collected from customers with piped wastewater service. In other words, customers with piped service were subsidizing customers served by ditches and culverts.

THE PRESENT - In 2007 Halifax Water assumed responsibility for wastewater and stormwater service delivery and reviewed these charges based on user pay principles, as regulated by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB). In July 2013 the NSUARB approved the current rate structure which corrected the inequity noted above.

THE FUTURE - On October 31, 2016 Halifax Water filed a Stormwater rate application with the NSUARB. The NSUARB hearing, which is open to the public, is scheduled to commence on February 14, 2017.

Highlights of the proposed changes to how Halifax Water charges for stormwater service include:

- Tiering of Residential Properties. Properties with more impervious area would pay more than those with less impervious area. Under this proposal, the majority of residential customers (88%) will see a decrease in their Site Related Flow (SRF) Charge from Halifax Water, as noted in the table below.

	TIER PARAMETERS Impervious Area in square metres	PROPOSED		NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED
		OLD RATE	NEW ANNUAL CHARGE	
TIER 1	Less than 50m ²	\$33.39	\$0.00	2,326
TIER 2	50 to 200m ²	\$33.39	\$14.00	44,710
TIER 3	210 to 400m ²	\$33.39	\$27.00	31,041
TIER 4	410 to 800m ²	\$33.39	\$54.00	7,768
TIER 5	Greater than 810m ²	\$33.39	\$81.00	2,123

- More properties will be exempt from the SRF charge - those with less than 50m² of impervious area.
- Customers will be billed in increments of 10m² rather than billing based on 1m² of impervious area.
- Introduce a credit system for non-residential properties with best management practices such as retention ponds that help manage peak stormwater flows.



In an effort to better explain stormwater service, Halifax Water has significantly improved its website, with graphics, videos and a searchable Stormwater Service Boundary map. The enhanced website provides information that is much easier to understand and navigate. Take a few minutes to visit www.halifaxwater.ca and check the front page links for full stormwater service information.



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[†]Savings of up to 40% is applicable to Meliá Marina Varadero Hotel, for departure dates listed above. Savings reflected in advertised price. *Minivan included (basic plan, no insurance). ¹Cruise flights are in/out of Fort Lauderdale with roundtrip transfers to and from Miami. **Everything Under the Sun** Event is valid on new bookings from January 6-31, 2017, for travel until April 30, 2017. Flights are from Halifax via Air Transat in economy class. Prices shown are per person, based on double occupancy in lead room category, unless otherwise stated. Space and prices are subject to availability at time of booking and subject to change without prior notice. Limited seats available at prices indicated: 20 per departure. Prices advertised are valid from January 27 to 30, 2017 only. Taxes and fees are extra and noted above. Travel Agency fees may apply. Limited cruise package staterooms available at prices indicated: 5 per departure. Ships' registry: NCL - The Bahamas; Carnival - The Bahamas & Panama. For full descriptions and terms and conditions, refer to transat.com. Transat is a division of Transat Tours Canada Inc., and is registered as a travel wholesaler in Ontario (Reg #50009486) with offices at 191 The West Mall, Suite 800, Etobicoke, ON M9C 5K8.

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Lessons from U.K. about tax havens

PANAMA PAPERS

In 2016, it became leader in exposing tax cheats

The glittering towers and spartan offices of this international financial capital hold billions of illicit offshore dollars, money belonging to countless anonymous company owners who came here to evade taxes and finance fraud, money laundering and terrorism.

That established model of corporate concealment, adopted by Canada, has met its end in Britain.

Last June, Britain became the world leader in exposing tax cheats by requiring corporate registrations to include the names of the real company owners — or “persons with significant control” — and listing the records in a database that anyone can view free online.

The British model, although still new, has been hailed as groundbreaking for disarming the most essential weapon for tax evaders: secrecy. Britain’s top financial crime cop considers corporate ownership secrecy “a threat to the economic security of the U.K.”

The Canadian government has displayed no such sense of urgency. In Canada’s federal and provincial corporate registries, it is difficult — often impossible — to identify the real owners of companies if they choose to hide behind lawyers, accountants or paper-only directors.

It’s the same kind of corporate secrecy that lures money launderers, tax evaders, drug traffickers and embezzlers to offshore tax havens such as Panama, the Seychelles and British Virgin Islands.

Canada’s growing reputation as a tax haven has consequences, say experts, including attracting money



“ Britain has taken the lead and now it is reasonable to expect Canada to look at the experience and see if it has improved things.”

Vince Cable

Britain requires corporate registrations to include the names of the real company owners and list them in an online database.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

from criminals and injecting unrestrained foreign investment into real-estate markets that drives up housing costs beyond the reach of many Canadians.

Here’s how it works: Let’s say you’re a foreign business person looking to evade taxes and hide any connection to money flowing into your company.

You may well want to run that cash through an anonymous shell company registered in a place that doesn’t require you to list your name on any public document, file taxes or keep any financial records. Ontario is perfect.

Ontario limited partnerships have become a go-to corporate structure for hiding international wealth legally thanks to secretive business registration and regulations that are being used in ways the province never intended.

Countries around the world are wrestling to close the regulatory black holes that facilitate tax evasion in the aftermath of the Panama Papers revelations, based on the leak of 11.5 million documents

obtained by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and shared in Canada with the Star and the CBC.

Britain, once heavily criticized for failing to control its overseas territories such as the British Virgin Islands, chose the right target for rooting out tax cheats, says Robert Palmer, who runs the anti-money laundering arm of the U.K. research group Global Witness.

Former British business secretary Vince Cable, an architect of the British public registry, said his government acted because the country was “in danger of attracting bad people with bad money.”

“Russian oligarchs for an example, they did acquire quite substantial companies here,” said Cable, who took on powerful corporate interests in the City of London to create the registry.

“Britain has taken the lead and now it is reasonable to expect for other countries like Canada to look at the experience and see if it has improved things.”

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

What does your Canada look like?



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Send us a photo of your favourite place in Canada along with 25 to 50 words about why that place is special to you. You can email us at scene@metronews.ca or post to Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag **#150canada**.

with your friends, neighbours and fellow Canadians. Starting Feb. 1, we will feature one reader’s submission each day in Metro editions across the county, on Metronews.ca and our 150postcards Instagram page. On the Friday before the Canada Day long weekend, the most popular postcards we receive will be printed in Metro. METRO



MERLO | DAVIDSON SETTLEMENT

NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION AND SETTLEMENT APPROVAL HEARING

RCMP GENDER HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION CLASS ACTION

If you are a female or identified as a female and were an RCMP Regular Member (for purposes of this Proposed Settlement includes Regular Members, Special Constables, Cadets, Auxiliary Constables, Special Constable Members, and Reserve Members), Civilian Member or Public Service Employee (for purposes of this Proposed Settlement includes Temporary Civilian Employees) working within the RCMP, this notice may affect your legal rights. Please read it carefully.

Class action lawsuits were initiated alleging gender based harassment and discrimination within the RCMP. The Defendants, while not admitting liability, have agreed to a settlement of these lawsuits. A federal court class action has been certified on consent, conditional on court approval of the settlement.

Who is Eligible for the Proposed Settlement?

To be eligible to participate in the settlement, you must be a member of the class. The class is defined as:

Primary Class Members: female current and former living Regular Members, Civilian Members and Public Service Employees (who are appointed by the Commissioner of the RCMP under the delegated authority of the Public Service Commission pursuant to the Public Service Employment Act, R.S.C., 1985, c. P-32; amended S.C. 2003, c. 22, ss.12, 13) who worked within the RCMP during the Class Period who experienced and/or continue to experience gender and sexual orientation based harassment and discrimination while working in the RCMP during the Class Period, and who have not opted out or are not deemed to have opted out of the Class Action on or before the expiry of the Opt Out Period.

For the purposes of this Agreement "**Regular Members**" includes Regular Members, Special Constables, Cadets, Auxiliary Constables, Special Constable Members, and Reserve Members

For the purposes of this Agreement "**Public Service Employees**" includes Temporary Civilian Employees who, prior to 2014 were appointed under the now-repealed subsection 10(2) of the RCMP Act, R.S.C., 1985, c. R-10;

Secondary Class Members: All persons who have a derivative claim in accordance with applicable family law legislation arising from a family relationship with a member of the Primary Class.

If you **do not** wish to participate in the class action, you must deliver a signed Opt-Out Form to Class Counsel received or postmarked no later than March 29, 2017. If you do not exclude yourself by that date, you will be included in this lawsuit and will be bound by the court's judgement on the settlement. The Opt-Out Form can be obtained from Class Counsel at the address below. It is also available on Class Counsel's websites.

If you have an ongoing lawsuit with respect to gender or sexual orientation based harassment or discrimination in the RCMP, and you wish to participate in the proposed class action settlement, you must discontinue your lawsuit before March 29, 2017. If you do not, you will be deemed by s. 334.21(2) of the Federal Court Rules, SOR/98-106 to have opted out of the class action. Please contact your lawyer to discuss your options.

The Terms of the Proposed Settlement

The settlement contains numerous change initiatives directed at eliminating workplace harassment and discrimination in the RCMP. The settlement also provides compensation for members of the Primary Class who experienced gender or sexual orientation based harassment or discrimination while working in the RCMP during the Class Period. Compensation is available for Secondary Class Members where the Primary Class Member's Claim is assessed at either of the two highest severity levels.

You can obtain a copy of the settlement agreement and the applicable schedules by contacting Class Counsel at the address below. These documents are also available on Class Counsel's websites.

The Approval Hearing and Your Right to Participate

A motion to approve the settlement is scheduled to be heard on May 24, 2017 at 9:30 am at the Federal Court of Canada, Trial Division, in Toronto. Class Counsel will also ask the court to approve an award of fees and disbursements for their work in achieving the settlement.

If you agree with the proposed settlement, you do not have to do anything at this time. If the court approves the settlement, a notice will be published setting out the procedures for submitting a Claim.

If you disagree with the proposed settlement, you have the right to object. You may do so by delivering a letter to Class Counsel in advance of the hearing, which Class Counsel will then provide to the court. In your letter, you should provide your name, contact information, and a brief statement of the nature and reasons for your objection.

What are the Financial Consequences?

If the settlement is approved by the court and you have not opted out of the class action prior to the opt-out deadline, you will be bound by the terms of the settlement.

The defendants have agreed to pay Class Counsel's disbursements and are making a contribution toward class counsel fees. Class Counsel will request a further class counsel fee of 15% plus applicable sales tax payable from the compensation awarded to class members under the settlement. The award of class counsel fees is subject to court approval.

For More Information

For more information about the settlement, contact Class Counsel at:

Klein Lawyers LLP
Attn: Angela Bespflug
Suite 400-1385 West 8th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6H 3V9
Phone: (604) 874-7171 • Fax: (604) 874-7180

Kim Orr Barristers P.C.
Attn: Megan B. McPhee
19 Mercer Street, Suite 400
Toronto, ON M5V 1H2
Phone: (416) 596-1414 • Fax: (416) 598-0601

'President Trump' — the words are still shocking

Even now, the concept of the Donald-in-chief retains its dystopian tinge

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
From the U.S.



Each day, now, waking up and turning on the radio, two words float out: "President Trump." They're tossed in among the weather by a voice that sounds not at all surprised to utter the phrase.

But I remain shocked. Not electric shocked: I've been awake these past months, after all. Normalization — the fear of the left — and the human urge to accept what you see has downgraded the feeling to a static jolt. A mere flick to the brain.

"Oh, right," I think. "President Trump." Then the newscast goes on, and a smorgasbord of campaign promises and knee-jerk presidential directives come tumbling out of the presenters' measured voices.

One day, Trump is picking a fight with the media over his lies about crowd sizes at his inauguration while simultaneously disrespecting murdered CIA agents, the next he's cutting international and national funding for women's health in a nod to anti-abortion extremists. Quietly, his

administration has wiped climate change from the White House website and muzzled Environmental Protection Agency and National Parks staff. He's ordered the wall to be built, and a ban on Syrian refugees, among others, is in the works. He's considering withholding funding from "sanctuary cities" which help illegal immigrants; he's launching an investigation to baseless and disproven claims of massive voter fraud. He might even send federal law enforcement into Chicago to deal with gun crime. Meanwhile, GOP leadership is putting up a mostly unified front. Business leaders are getting in line, meeting with the new president to secure their spot on his good list, lest he sic his Twitter account on them.

Reporters are rushing to keep up on all fronts, with Trump's pronouncement that torture is effective and his family's new \$200,000 Mar-a-Lago membership fee, which doubled this month.

"It's chaos," one reporter tweeted.

Or it's the trenches. It turns out Trump was both serious and literal in his campaign. His whims will be orders. His

grievances wielded with the weight of the presidency. He was not playing the bombastic, feuding egomaniac for votes. The reality show is the morning news.

When I hear "President Trump," as I'm pouring my coffee, it retains its dystopian tinge. I wonder if this is how people felt in other times of upheaval, going about their morning routines, for example, while the world teetered on nuclear war. There is a dissonance between the normality of the life you've been living, and the political reality into which you've been plunged.

The steady voice of news anchors you know, the work of writers you've come to rely on offer some solace. People you trust are keeping track, countering lies, investigating, analysing. Even the civil service, unused to being exploited for such deeply personal and ideological ends, is acting out, leaking memos to the press and launching rogue Twitter accounts.

It is a luxury, and a great one, that up until this week my mornings have been largely peaceful. I am a novice in fear, waking up to Trump.



Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto cancelled his visit to the U.S. over a debate with Donald Trump on who will pay for the border wall. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS & AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Trump, Peña Nieto spar over the wall

President Donald Trump called on fellow Republicans to help him enact "great and lasting change" at a party retreat Thursday but offered few details. Later his spokesman said the president will seek a 20 per cent tax on Mexican imports to pay for a proposed border wall.

The president was greeted by cheers as he took the stage in a hotel ballroom, telling senators and House members, "This Congress is going to be the busiest Congress in decades - maybe ever."

He addressed lawmakers shortly after Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto cancelled a trip to Washington next week

for his first meeting with the new president due to their disagreement over which of their countries would pay to build Trump's promised wall on the border between them.

The wall is part of Trump's plan to halt illegal immigration to the U.S., and he has long said that Mexico will pay. Peña Nieto insists his country will not.

On the flight back to Washington, White House spokesman Sean Spicer told reporters travelling with the president that Trump will seek to impose a 20 per cent tax on Mexican imports to pay for the wall. Congressional approval would

be needed for such a step.

But then later, at the White House, Spicer tried to take back his earlier comments by saying the 20 per cent tax is one of several options under consideration and Trump hasn't settled on it.

In Trump's remarks to lawmakers, he cast the cancellation of his engagement with Peña Nieto as a mutual decision, saying they had "agreed to cancel our planned meeting." Trump had tweeted early Thursday that "it would be better to cancel the upcoming meeting" given Peña Nieto's unwillingness to pay for the border wall. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUTCH COMEDY

Show skewers the Donald



Andrew Fifield
Metro | Toronto

Satirical news shows like Last Week Tonight and The Daily Show have spread across the world, and a lot of them are licking their chops about the Trump Administration.

So congratulations to the Dutch weekly Zondag met Lubach (Sunday with Lubach) for scoring the first global hit with their shot at the White House in the form of a fake tourism video.

The bit takes a sharp inward turn to comment on the issues the Netherlands faces at home, such as the "scandalous tradition of Black Pete." However, it's not all teasing and jabs and the video takes us to a much more conciliatory conclusion.

"We've got a great, great, great dependency on the United States.

VIDEO ON THE METRO APP



Zondag met Lubach scored the first global hit with their shot at the White House. YOUTUBE.COM

It's huge," the faux Trump narrator says. "If you screw NATO, you're going to make our problems great again. They're going to be huge, they're going to be enormous. It's true. Please don't."

BORDER DRAMA

All Mexico, no Canada

The first week of Donald Trump's presidency promised Canada two bridges, one oil pipeline and a set of locks.

Mexico got a wall.

America's two neighbours had vastly different experiences in Week 1 of the reality-TV-star's presidency — Canada away from the spotlight, quietly hoping for the best, while Mexico featured in tension-filled plot twists.

Trouble escalated mid-week.

It started with the president initiating the construction of a border wall and toughening immigration rules in an executive order titled, "Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements."

The order might as well have been renamed, "Southern Border Security," because it only referred to one border. The document carried 19 references to the southern one, and zero to the northern one with Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

2016
BETWEEN:

SUPREME COURT OF NOVA SCOTIA
Armco Capital Inc., a body corporate
- and -
Skymark Homes Nova Scotia Limited, a body corporate

Hlx No. 458178
PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

To be sold at public auction under an Order for Foreclosure, Sale and Possession, unless before the time of sale the amount due to the Plaintiff on the mortgage under foreclosure, plus costs to be taxed, are paid:

Property:
Certain lands located in Halifax County, Nova Scotia at 202 Thicket Drive, Lot 217, Brookside, NS (PID 41328659), 230 Thicket Drive, Lot 218, Brookside, NS (PID 41328667), 260 Thicket Drive, Lot 219, Brookside, NS (PID 41328675), 332 Thicket Drive, Lot 222, Brookside, NS (PID 41328709), 356 Thicket Drive, Lot 223, Brookside, NS (PID 41328717). These lands being more fully described at Schedule "A" of the mortgage dated April 16, 2014 and recorded at the Land Registration Office for Halifax County on April 24, 2014, as Document No. 104945258.

Together with an easement/right of way.
Subject to easements/rights of way, agreements and restrictive covenants.
These properties are registered pursuant to the Land Registration Act.

Certain lands located in Halifax County, Nova Scotia at 789 Brookside Road, Lot 4, Brookside, NS (PID 40556243), 30 Starflower Way, Lot 101, Brookside, NS (PID 41250416), 38 Starflower Way, Lot 102, Brookside, NS (PID 41250424), Thicket Drive, Lot 224, Brookside, NS (PID 41328725), Starflower Way, Lot 225, Brookside, NS (PID 41328733), 250 Starflower Way, Lot A-226, Brookside, NS (PID 41393620), 278 Starflower Way, Lot A-227, Brookside, NS (PID 41393638), Starflower Way, Lot A-228, Brookside, NS (PID 41393646). These lands being more fully described at Schedule "A" of the mortgage dated September 30, 2014 and recorded at the Land Registration Office for Halifax County on October 10, 2014, as Document No. 105960307.

Together with an easement/right of way.
Subject to easements/rights of way, agreements and restrictive covenants.
These properties are registered pursuant to the Land Registration Act.

A copy of the descriptions of the properties, as contained in the mortgage foreclosed, is on file at the Prothonotary's office and may be inspected during business hours.

Date of Sale: Monday, January 30, 2017
Time of Sale: 11:00 a.m. local time.
Place of Sale: Halifax Law Courts, 1815 Upper Water Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
Terms: Ten per cent (10%) deposit payable to "Burchells LLP, in Trust" by cash, certified cheque or solicitor's trust cheque at the time of sale, remainder within fifteen (15) days upon delivery of deed.

Signed December 29, 2016.
Nicholas C. G. Mott
COX & PALMER
1100-1959 Upper Water Street
PO Box 2380 Central
Halifax, NS B3J 3E5
Solicitor for the Plaintiff

I, Andrew Rankin, Barrister
Burchells LLP

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Photobombed by a shark

WILDLIFE

10-year-old's unusual experience in Australia

A 10-year-old surfer has had a close encounter with a photobombing shark that shared a wave with him off an Australian beach.

Chris Hasson said Thursday that he was taking photos of his son Eden riding a wave off Samurai Beach at Port Stephens, 180 kilometres north of Sydney, on Tuesday when something unexpected and



Chris Hasson's son, Eden, surfs near what is believed to be a great white shark at Samurai Beach in Port Stephens, Australia.

COURTESY CHRIS HASSON VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

indistinct caught his eye.

He discovered he had photographed the face of a twisting shark just below the surface with his son on an apparent collision course. "I saw the

second photo and (thought) — no way," Hasson said. "I quickly called him in and whistled."

"He (Eden) saw a shape in the wave and thought it was seaweed and felt something

as he went over the top — he got his leg rope caught on something — but he thought nothing of it until he saw the photo," Hasson said.

James Cook University shark researcher Andrew Chin said the photographed shark was possibly a small great white.

"From the angle, it looks like the shark was spooked and is rolling away from the board to escape it," Chin said. "There is no way that this is a hunting approach."

Port Stephens is on the northern coast of New South Wales state which has experienced an extraordinary increase in shark attacks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CATASTROPHE

Doomsday Clock ticks closer to midnight



Irene Kuan
Metro | Toronto

The Doomsday Clock has moved 30 seconds closer to midnight, meaning the world is just two and a half minutes from the point of existential catastrophe.

In a statement released Thursday, The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists said although the decision to adjust the symbolic clock is often based on examining long-term threats to humanity, this year, the actions and statements of one person — Donald Trump — and the

rise in 'strident nationalism' became a major driving factor in the board's decisions.

The board statement said although Trump has only been president for a matter of days, his actions and statements on nuclear weapons and dismissal of scientific claims about the global threat of climate change in the past year were enough for them to move the clock forward by half a minute. It's a jump the board has never made in its 70 year history.

This is the closest to midnight the clock has been since the Cold War in the 1950s, when the U.S. and Soviet Union were testing hydrogen bombs.



INCREDIBLE THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU DO WHAT YOU DO

Celebrating Saint Mary's University's 2017 Winter Convocation



Karen Oldfield, Board Chair; Dr. Paul Sobey, Chancellor; Barrinique Griffin, Valedictorian; Saeed Ed-Darahali, Special Guest Speaker; Amanda Brown, Valedictorian; and Scott Norton, Board Vice Chair.

On January 20th, Saint Mary's University's graduates once again embraced the University's Latin motto AGE QUOD AGIS. Their hard work and commitment to DO WHAT YOU DO has led them to scholarly success. The world needs its

fresh graduates, its best and brightest. We celebrate our new graduates as they move into leadership roles in our society and shape our shared future.

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2017 Titan PRO-4X
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DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

WHO'S RIGHT? INSIDE THE SUGAR WARS

What is making us so fat? The reasons for the obesity epidemic are still a matter of debate, even among experts. It's really hard to study the long-term effects of a given diet. Fat was once nutrition enemy number one, but now some experts are taking aim at sugar. Here are three different views.

What's insulin resistance?

You can think of the hormone insulin as a key that unlocks fat and muscle cells. Your body converts food into simple sugars. When you eat, your blood sugar spikes, and your pancreas releases insulin. Insulin brings your blood sugar down by encouraging muscle cells to absorb sugar and use it for energy, and fat cells to absorb sugar and store it as fat. If you have insulin resistance, you've built up a bit of a tolerance to insulin. You need to secrete more of it in order to have the same effect of your cells, making it harder to keep your blood sugar under control. Some experts, not all, believe insulin resistance is a major factor driving many chronic diseases, including obesity.

The sugar-wary doctor

Dr. Khosrow Adeli, head of clinical biochemistry, SickKids in Toronto



A little bit of sugar is important. It makes food taste good. But there is no question, from dozens of studies in humans and animals, that sugar, and particularly fructose, causes insulin resistance. When you develop insulin resistance, it can turn into a number of chronic conditions, including obesity and Type II diabetes. Too much fructose also causes high blood pressure and fatty liver disease. And the effects tend to be worse if you're also eating a lot of fat and other carbohydrates. Fructose and sugar are a problem not just because of all the calories they contain. If you compare them to calories from, say, fat, the fructose calories are much more harmful. **Bottom Line:** Along with lack of exercise and overeating, sugar, and especially fructose, is one of the main reasons for our obesity epidemic. Adults should cap fructose intake at 50 g per day.

The crusading journalist

Gary Taubes, author, The Case Against Sugar



For the past century or so, the worst we've said about sugar is that it's empty calories. The idea was that you could exercise it away and balance it by eating less of other things. That is naïve. There's a significant amount of evidence that sugar is a fundamental cause of the obesity and diabetes epidemics worldwide. Something in our diet and lifestyle is causing it, and sugar should be the prime suspect. We don't say **too much** smoking causes lung cancer. We say smoking causes lung cancer. If I'm right, and I clearly think and hope I am, doctors are going to be telling you sugar is killing you, don't eat it. **Bottom line:** Sugar kills; minimize your intake.

The skeptical scientist

Dr. David Lau, professor of medicine, biochemistry & molecular biology, University of Calgary



Gary Taubes's ideas are oversimplified. We develop insulin resistance as we gain more body fat. That is the body's natural defence mechanism to stop you from gaining more fat. It's why we tend to stay at a constant weight. But you usually won't become insulin resistant to the point that insulin doesn't work, unless you are prone to developing Type 2 diabetes. **Bottom line:** The amounts of carbs, fat, or other major nutrients in your diet don't matter as much as excess calories do. That's what causes us to gain weight.

Your week in science



MAY WARREN/METRO

SCIENTISTS MARCH

As a U.S. administration steeped in climate-change denial and other anti-science views takes power, scientists are planning to storm the capital and demand evidence-based policy-making — after peer review of course.

METALLIC HYDROGEN

Imagine a superconducting rocket fuel, solid at room temperature and explosive enough to propel spaceships. Since 1935, the idea of solid metal hydrogen has been just that. Now Harvard scientists have created it IRL, by compressing hydrogen at 71.7 million lbs per square inch.

SOUND SMART



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Milla Jovovich returns to the big screen for the seventh, and possibly last, chapter of the Resident Evil film franchise. CONTRIBUTED

Resident Evil's teaching moment

ACTION HORROR

The franchise is a big money maker despite harsh ratings

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



Since 2002 Milla Jovovich has played a genetically altered zombie fighter with telekinetic powers in six Resident Evil films.

Like the undead fleshbags who populate these based-on-a-videogame movies, you can't seem to kill this franchise, although the title of this weekend's Resident Evil: The Final Chapter

seems to indicate the end is near.

But just because the Resident Evil movies aren't Shakespeare doesn't mean we can't learn something from them. Here's what I took away from Jovovich and Company in the last thirteen years:

1. The undead have really, really bad aim.
2. No matter what stunt she has just performed, whether it's plummeting nineteen stories down an abandoned mine shaft, or battling legions of bad guys, Milla's hair will, at most, only look slightly tousled, as if Vidal Sassoon had just finished running his magic fingers through her locks.
3. The amount of rainfall in the

future makes Vancouver look arid.

4. To act in one of these movies you must perfect one of two facial expressions: a. steely determination, or b. uncontrolled rage (which can be alternated with a sadistic smile if necessary).

5. Characters will say, "What the hell is going on here?" when it is quite clear what the heck is going on.

6. Most of the people to survive the deadly plague that destroyed most of humanity look like Abercrombie & Fitch pinups.

7. Why take the stairs when you can drive a Rolls Royce down an escalator?

So there you have it — lessons learned.

Despite legendary director Jean-Luc Godard's claim that, "All you need for a movie is a gun and a girl," both of which are amply

on display in the Resident Evil movies, they still feel more like a videogame projected on a big screen than a movie.

But who cares what I or other film critics think? These movies have been phenomenally successful and for over a decade have proven to be critic-proof. Roger Ebert placed Resident Evil on his most hated films list in 2005 and called its sequel, "an utterly meaningless waste of time," adding, "Parents: If you encounter teenagers who say they liked this movie, do not let them date your children."

Leonard Maltin added to the pile on calling Resident Evil: Apocalypse "tiresome" while Dark Horizons said the third movie, Afterlife was, "perhaps the first 3D motion picture to simulate the experience of watch-

ing paint dry," and yet the splatter flick went on to gross \$300 million dollars worldwide.

Critics aside, others in the film biz love the movies. Avatar director James Cameron called Resident Evil his biggest guilty pleasure and the Ontario Media Development Corporation acknowledged the Toronto-shot Afterlife as the most successful production in Canadian feature film history.

Bottom line is that in total, the series has grossed almost \$1 billion — a feat recognized by the Guinness World Records Gamer's Edition who called the Resident Evil films "the most successful movie series to be based on a video game," awarding them with the record for Most Live-Action Film Adaptations of a Video Game.



MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Gold
Trespass Against Us ★★
The Red Turtle ★★★★★
Toni Erdmann ★★★★★

HOW RATING WORKS

★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
★★ SKIP IT
★

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- and -
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A flashy blond in Bre-X gold scandal

INTERVIEW

Even a gaudy hairdo was fine for Bryce Dallas Howard

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



It wasn't until Bryce Dallas Howard saw herself in a crazy permed wig that she truly found her character for the new movie *Gold*.

"You have to kind of see it to understand who that person is," admitted the 35-year-old star about trying on gaudy hairdos to unearth her character.

"It's a little punny, but that's when I got to try on different versions of her. Eventually we landed on curly-haired, big-boobed and clothes that were a size too tight for her."

Loosely paralleling the Canadian-based Bre-X scandal of the '90s, *Gold* excavates the account of a flighty prospector (played by a balding, chubby Matthew McConaughey) whose incredible Indonesian gold strike dupes thousands of investors out of millions of dollars — until the fortune isn't what it appears to be.

Playing the obsessed tycoon's whip-smart girlfriend, Howard was shocked to learn the incredible twists of the real swindle.

"My character was invented so it wasn't really

“

I've never lost my privacy, never had a massive change in lifestyle.

Bryce Dallas Howard

MOVIES

Netflix changing the game for entertainers

"When I was younger, the gravy train of the movie business drove me bananas," Bryce Dallas Howard said of the changing film scene. "There's like a democratization of entertainment happening with Netflix and the cream rising to the top — it's a great time to be a storyteller."

something that was a big part of my preparation. Even now I'm learning more details," laughed Howard, of the adaptation that relocates the action from Alberta to Reno, Nev. "It's so bizarre to me that the story that it's based on took place in Canada; it feels like such a specifically American story because this story represents the potentials and evils of capitalism."

Howard's own tale is certainly one that has been nothing but blessed by potential.

Having set out in Hollywood in 2004, the daughter of legendary filmmaker Ron Howard may have hit early pay dirt with hits like *The Village* and *Spider-Man 3*, but the real treasure has only now arrived by balancing big-budget blockbusters like *Jurassic World* and quiet personal downtime.

"I'm more excited about stuff I'm getting to do than I've ever been," said Howard, currently preparing for the forthcoming *Jurassic World* sequel.

"But I've never lost my privacy, never had a massive change in lifestyle. I've been able to be home for long stretches of time with having kids (and) the fact that I've gotten to go back to working again is not something I take for granted."



Bryce Dallas Howard and Matthew McConaughey in a scene from *Gold*. SUBMITTED

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Two features of masterful horror

MOVIES

Blind Sun and Dearest Sister are creepy good

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



Joyce A. Nashawati's pre-apocalyptic film *Blind Sun* sets xenophobia and alienation against the sunny backdrop of Athens, Greece. *Dearest Sister* is Mattie Do's story of Laotian lottery ghosts and communication with the dead.

They're two very different films but are bonded by the director's shared love of the horror genre, their global outlook and the streaming source Shudder, which will feature both films exclusively in Canada.

"I always adored genre films and watched them closely," says Nashawati on the line from Tokyo where she is researching her second film. "Films that are not totally subjected to realism; that play



Dearest Sister, starring Vilouna Phetmany, was directed by Mattie Do — the first female Laotian director to make a full-length feature. CONTRIBUTED

with what cinema can do with the imaginary. Also, because they come from darkness, I think they play with the conscience of the spectator. They give and take things, which is kind of playful."

Mattie Do, the first female Laotian director to make a full-length feature, was born in Los Angeles, but now lives in a country that didn't even have movie theatres when she moved there in 2010.

She admits "our film growth is rocky," but adds, "people outside may see it as challenging to work in a developing country with no infrastructure but at the same time no one here tells me what stories I have to make. When I walk into the Department of Cinema, they know who I am because we have so few filmmakers in the country but it is easy for us to sit down and have a very adult discussion.

Whereas if I was facing down some board of directors I might not be able to have the creative control I do here."

A global perspective comes naturally to Nashawati who grew up between Beirut, Accra, Kuwait and Athens.

"My past was very global without being a choice," she says. "*Blind Sun* was made by someone who is Lebanese, with a French producer, you're watching it in Canada and

we're now talking while I'm in Japan. This is the way things are today. It is exciting. It is interesting that it is (happening) when politics is going the opposite way and closing things."

The pair have very different styles — Do's film is a slow burner, Nashawati's a nightmarish thriller — but both agree modern technology has made it possible for them to turn their wild visions into movies.

Nashawati thinks it has never been easier to make films, even if you're "someone who is outside the circle of filmmaking or someone who isn't from a bourgeois background."

"If you adore filmmaking today," she says, "this a great time to know you can actually make a film and it can be shown."

Do says foreign directors are given a big leg up by streaming services like Shudder who are able to take chances on offbeat films.

"With Shudder I feel people can explore more different tastes and sub-genres of genres. If I described *Dearest Sister*, a Laos film about a lottery ghost and a girl who is going blind, would you pick up a ticket for that movie? Maybe not. But if you could sit in the comfort of your own home, pick up your remote or your computer and say, 'Look at all these movies. That's random, there's a Laos movie. What's Laos like?' You can just click on it. It feels like a safe investment."

Dearest Sister is streaming now. *Blind Sun* will be available Feb. 9.



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Castaway on a dream

The Red Turtle combines Japanese ghost stories and European narrative

Peter Howell/Torstar News Service

AWESOME AWARDS

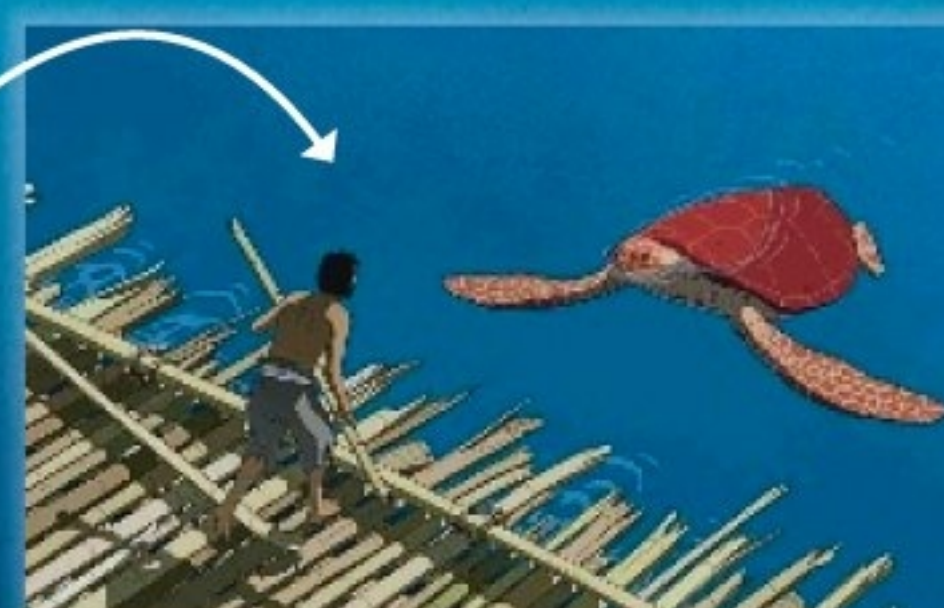
This symbol-laden fable by Dutch-British writer/director Michael Dudok de Wit is nominated for an Oscar for best animated feature. He previously won an Academy Award in 2001 for the animated short, *Father and Daughter*. The stunning, pastel-shaded film is co-produced by Tokyo-based anime giant, Studio Ghibli.

CRUSOE COMPARISON

Entirely wordless, yet saying so much, *The Red Turtle* begins as a familiar Robinson Crusoe adventure, about a shipwrecked man who washes up on a remote island. His only associates are the birds, crabs and turtles who already call the isle home. He encounters the title reptile while attempting to paddle away from the island.

CRAFTY CHARACTER

He's a resourceful sort, able to forage for food and to fashion rudimentary shelter out of the natural materials at hand — a task that risks death from accident, animal attack or the merciless force of wind and waves. The man also crafts a raft out of the bamboo he painstakingly collects from the island's abundant forests.



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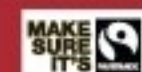
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5 ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES TO HAVE IN ECUADOR

With four distinct eco-systems, Ecuador is more than just a jumping-off point for the Galapagos. Exploring the interior delivers Andes mountain magic and Amazon jungle surprises. You can visit Ecuador all year round. January to May are the warmest months, but also the wettest. June to December tends to be cooler, and crowds are rare. **DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO**



1 Explore the capital

DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO

Quito is a series of mini-neighbourhoods, each with a different essence and identity. Old Town brims with historic buildings, churches and museums. La Marsical comes alive at five, with young locals and tourists spilling out of the bars and restaurants near Plaza Foch. Head over to Calle de la Ronda for an authentic Ecuadorian snack and a happy-hour two-for-one. Cabs cost next to nothing, so you can skip the too-busy bus.



2 Get sporty

JODI BERNSTEIN/FOR METRO

Adventure sports abound in Baños in south-central Ecuador, a relaxing spa town best known for its paragliding, canyoneering and zip lining, as well as its picturesque parks, hilltop hikes and calming waters. Spring for a massage at one of the spas or pop into the local mineral baths for \$2, and do the hot-and-cold healing-water circuit.



DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO

3 Hit the highlands

A trip up the winding highways to the highlands nets you volcanic vistas, indigenous realism and misty forest. The city of Otavalo, in a lake region known for its textiles, has the largest outdoor market in South America, with row after row of stalls selling crafts and souvenirs. Spend a night at 200-year-old Hacienda Pinsaqui nearby, and enjoy a canelazo in the legendary bar — a spiked cinnamon tea.



DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO

4 Journey to the jungle

Journey into the jungle for a night or three at one of the remote lodges in and around Yasuni National Park, accessible only by motorized canoe. You get the full rainforest effect communing with monkeys, fishing for piranha, scanning treetops for rare birds, and watching parrots play along the clay riverbanks. Local community visits yield eye-opening simplicity, a vibrant culture and warm hospitality.



DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO

5 Eat local

Traditional Ecuadorian food is plentiful, reasonably priced and delicious, particularly the barbecue. Fresh fish, fried chicken and churrasco beef dishes are dolled up with a variety of home-style hot sauces, patatas fritas, flavoured rice or deep-fried plantain. Steer clear of the street food, as your stomach may not react as positively as your eyes, but do step outside the taste-bud box and experience some of the authentic delicacies. **Doug Wallace's trip was sponsored by GAdventures.com, which did not approve or review this story.**

TOURS

G Adventures offers a nine-day Ecuador tour every month throughout 2017 as part of its National Geographic Journeys adventure series.

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Top courses just a short trip from the Vegas Strip

Brian Kendall
For Metro Canada



Las Vegas offers temptations that would make Caligula blush.

But Sin City is many things, not least an outstanding golf destination. On a recent visit, I played several exceptional courses, whacked balls at newly opened Topgolf Las Vegas — and between rounds dined like a sated emperor in dining rooms that included, most memorably, Nobu Restaurant in Caesars Palace.

Part of the beauty of golf in Las Vegas is that several top courses are just a short cab ride from the Strip, eliminating the need for a rental car.

Next door to the Mandalay Resort and Casino is Bali Hai Golf Club, a gorgeous Schmidt-Curley design offering views of the towering casinos from tees



Mexican-American professional BMX rider and television personality Ricardo Laguna tees off at Topgolf Las Vegas. CONTRIBUTED

and greens. Golf purists might prefer Desert Pines Golf Club, also in the heart of the city. This Carolina sand hills-style design by the great Pete Dye is lined with more than 4,000 pines.

Another must-play course

right in town is Bear's Best Las Vegas, featuring 18 reproductions of holes selected by Jack Nicklaus from the more than 270 courses he has designed around the world.

Tribute courses like Bear's Best

are a natural fit in a town where giant-sized knockoffs of the Eiffel Tower and the Statue of Liberty loom over the throngs of fun-seekers wandering the Strip day and night.

At Royal Links Golf Club hom-



This is a city that almost demands at least one big splurge every visit. Mine was at Nobu Restaurant in Caesars Palace.

age is paid to the greatest holes found at the hallowed links that have hosted British Opens.

A highlight is the recreation of Royal Troon's famous par-three Postage Stamp, which at 123 yards is the shortest hole in the Open rotation.

Other outstanding courses in or near Las Vegas include Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort, Cascata, TPC Las Vegas and Las Vegas National Golf Club, famous as the site of Tiger Woods' first PGA Tour victory in 1996.

And a popular new attraction for golfers, Topgolf Las Vegas, opened last May in the glittering heart of downtown. The latest in a growing U.S.-wide chain of deluxe driving ranges, Topgolf features four levels of hitting bays, hundreds of HDTVs, a stage for live concerts, swimming pools, private VIP rooms, and even a Callaway golf fitting centre. Golfers score points by hitting targets on the range.

It's all wonderfully entertain-

ing. Indeed, my visit to Topgolf made me wonder if I was looking at the future of golf. Regional Topgolf champions recently competed in Las Vegas for a grand prize of \$50,000 U.S.

Pricing at Topgolf starts at \$30 U.S. per hour for a group of up to six people, a bargain as Las Vegas entertainments go.

But this is a city that almost demands at least one big splurge every visit. Mine was at Nobu Restaurant in Caesars Palace, part of a wildly acclaimed fine dining chain featuring the Asian fusion cuisine of Nobuyuki "Nobu" Matsuhisa.

Specialties include black cod miso (Robert De Niro's favourite), rock shrimp tempura, and yellowtail sashimi with jalapeno and squid pasta. In all my golf travels, I've rarely — if ever — dined better.

For more golf travel stories, visit Brian's website at canadiangolftraveller.com

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metr SPORTS

Canada's Mac Marcoux earned his second gold of the para-alpine skiing worlds, teaming with guide Jack Leitch to win the visually-impaired super-G



Venus and Serena Williams will face off in the Australian Open final on Saturday in Melbourne. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES ILLUSTRATION

Sister act back in major final after 8-year gap

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Serena, Venus in celebratory mood ahead of women's finale

Win or lose, Serena Williams sees another all-sister final at the Australian Open as cause for celebration.

The 35-year-old Williams arrived in Australia bidding for a 23rd Grand Slam title, aiming to break the Open-era record she shares with Steffi Graf. By winning, she'd also regain the No. 1 ranking she lost after her U.S. Open semifinal exit.

She doesn't enjoy the suspense, or talk about the number. Her older sister, Venus, knows that better than anyone after their two decades of competing

together in majors.

Now the 36-year-old Venus is the potential roadblock, back in a major final for the first time since she lost the previous all-Williams Grand Slam final at Wimbledon in 2009.

"I just feel like no matter what happens, we've won," Serena said. "A Williams is going to win this tournament."

Venus hasn't added to her seven major titles since Wimbledon in 2008, but is in her best form since being diagnosed with energy-sapping Sjogren's syndrome in 2011.

In fact, she was the first Williams into the 2017 final, rallying to beat 25-year-old CoCo Van-

deweghe — the only player in the women's semifinals who was younger than 34 by a score 6-7 (3), 6-2, 6-3. A jubilant Venus could barely contain her emotions after clinching a spot in the final on her fourth match point, putting her hands to her

face, her jaw dropping, before she crossed her arms over her heart and did a stylish pirouette.

Feeling like "it was in my hands to force this Williams final" in the subsequent match, six-time Austral-

ian Open champion Serena overwhelmed 34-year-old Mirjana Lucic-Baroni 6-2, 6-1 of Croatia.

By the time Roger Federer beat fourth-seeded Stan Wawrinka 7-5,

6-3, 1-6, 4-6, 6-3 in an all-Swiss night match to become the oldest man to reach a Grand Slam final since Ken Rosewall made the 1974 U.S. Open final at 39, they were calling it Throwback Thursday at Melbourne Park.

Three players who can combine for 46 Grand Slam titles and 106 years in age advanced to a final one after the other: Federer, returning from six months out to rest his injured left knee, will next play Sunday against either 14-time major champion Rafael Nadal and Grigor Dimitrov.

With the Williamses locked in for Saturday night, expectations are rising for another vintage Roger-Rafa bout.

"It's going to be special either way — one is going to go for his first slam or it's the epic battle with Rafa," Federer said. "All I care about is that I can win."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No matter what happens, we've won. A Williams is going to win this tournament.

Serena Williams

NHL IN BRIEF

Bruin Marchand fined \$10K for trip on Wings' Kronwall

The NHL has fined Boston Bruins forward Brad Marchand of Hammonds Plains \$10,000 US, for his dangerous trip of Detroit Red Wings defenceman Niklas Kronwall.

The amount is the maximum allowable under the collective bargaining agreement between the league and the NHL Players' Association.

The play occurred at 12:27 of the first period of Boston's 4-3 overtime win Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jackets' Atkinson to take Malkin's All-Star place

Columbus Blue Jackets forward Cam Atkinson has been added to the Metropolitan Division roster for the this weekend's NHL all-star event in Los Angeles.

Atkinson leads Columbus and is tied for eighth in the league with 46 points in 47 games. His 24 goals are tied with the Kings' Jeff Carter for second most in the NHL. He replaces Pittsburgh Penguins forward Evgeni Malkin, who is out with a lower-body injury.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



B.C.'s Adam Hadwin shot a 66 while leader Justin Rose of England shot a 65 at Torrey Pines in San Diego. GETTY IMAGES

GOLF

Hadwin just off lead as Tiger struggles

Canada's Adam Hadwin, who shot 59 last week in the California desert, shot a 66 in the opening round of the Farmer's Insurance on Thursday in San Diego.

Justin Rose set the early pace with a 7-under 65 on the North course at Torrey Pines.

Coming off back-to-back bird-

ies to reach 1-under par, Tiger Woods followed with three straight bogeys, and then a double bogey when he hooked his tee shot into a ravine. A birdie on his final hole gave him a 4-over 76 in his first PGA Tour competition in 17 months.

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Not everybody's sold on bye week

NHL

Teams adjust on fly to new scheduling wrinkle

Mike Smith felt weird.

The All-Star goaltender for Phoenix knew other teams were playing while he and the rest of the Coyotes were enjoying a week off. He filled his time by sledding with his kids and not doing too much of anything.

"It's been great," Smith said. "I've got to spend some quality time with my family, my kids. Nothing crazy, pretty chilled and pretty relaxed."

A five-day bye week for each team is a new wrinkle added to the NHL this season so players can get a breather during the second half of a grueling, 82-game grind. The players' union negotiated for it last year in ex-

change for agreeing to the 3-on-3 tournament that replaced the traditional All-Star Game.

The NFL-style bye week will return next season or in 2018-19 — depending on whether NHL players go to the Pyeongchang Olympics — because that 3-on-3 All-Star format is in place Sunday in Los Angeles.

Players are widely in favour of the extra time off, even though it compresses the schedule for the rest of the year, but it isn't as popular among coaches and general managers. Washington Capitals coach Barry Trotz is concerned about injuries when a team coming off a bye plays an opponent that has been in action. Philadelphia Flyers general manager Ron Hextall isn't a big fan of the concept in general.

"I think it's ridiculous," Hextall said recently. "The most asinine thing I've ever seen."

Old-school hockey people are characteristically resistant to change, but current players love



The Penguins topped the Lightning 6-2 in their first game after their bye week before losing three straight. GETTY IMAGES

it. Players' feedback from the 2014 Sochi Olympics was that the time off re-energized them for later in the season.

As All-Stars gather in L.A. this weekend, a lot of players will go on vacation but they also believe the best in the NHL deserve a break, too.

The Pittsburgh Penguins and New York Islanders were the first to go on their byes Jan. 1, and the Anaheim Ducks will be

the last to come off theirs March 2. Trotz and the Capitals have been charting results coming out of the bye week in preparation for their break in mid-February.

When the bye week idea came about, Trotz sent a proposal to the NHL to have groups of teams take bye weeks together so they're in the same shape and timing and injuries don't pile up. Even better, the intent in the future is to have half the

league off the five days before All-Star Weekend and the other half the five days after to make it more even across the board.

No matter the timing, bye weeks make for a difficult adjustment back to game shape.

"These guys are used to playing the game every day and touching the puck every day, and when you take them away from that, their timing, I think their game timing tends to establish a little bit of rust," Penguins coach Mike Sullivan said. "I think that's what happens in professional sports when these athletes are used to honing their craft day in and day out."

Winger Carl Hagelin felt some of that rust in Pittsburgh's first game back Jan. 8 with his stick handling and execution. But he also felt some extra energy in his legs.

"It's five full days off and you get to recover and heal some bumps and bruises," Ottawa Senators centre Chris Kelly said. "But

444

According to the On The Forecheck blog, teams will play a total of 444 sets of back-to-backs this season, up from 412 in 2015-16

that being said, we played 17 in 30 days to start a season. That's very unusual in the NHL, especially when you're competing against baseball and the NFL. Most times when you're playing 17, 18 a month, it's March. That's maybe the bit of the downside to it."

Even with that caveat, players will gladly take the extra rest that comes with the bye week.

"Our schedules, you don't really get to take vacations ever," Capitals goaltender Braden Holtby said. "It's good for family life, and playing is better when family's good." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Mikael Kingsbury won last week's event in Val-Saint-Come, Que. THE CANADIAN PRESS

FREESTYLE SKIING

Kingsbury returns to golden slopes in Calgary

The best moguls skier on the planet is also a tennis fan.

Winner of six straight World Cup gold in Calgary, Mikael Kingsbury says the Canada Olympic Park course feels to him how a Grand Slam must feel to a tennis star.

"It's kind of like Rafael Nadal when he's in Roland Gar-

ros," Kingsbury said Thursday after a training session. "He won there so many years in a row. It's kind of like that for me here."

The all-time leader in World Cup victories was keeping an eye on the Australian Open as he prepared to defend his gold Saturday in Calgary.

The north-facing slope on the city's west side is subject to warm winds and icy blasts sometimes within 24 hours, which makes the moguls track perennially tricky. Still Kingsbury has pulled out wins in Calgary no matter the conditions.

A two-time world champion and five-time winner of the sea-

son's overall World Cup crown, Kingsbury is missing only an Olympic gold medal to make his dominance complete.

Kingsbury reclaimed the yellow bib as the men's overall leader with his victory last week in Val Saint-Come, Que.

So home is where the hardware is.

"We get a little bit more in our hearts and we want to push more," Kingsbury said.

"It's still the beginning of the season and we're getting into the part where we're starting to travel a lot to Asia, so to get those points here are very important for the end of the season." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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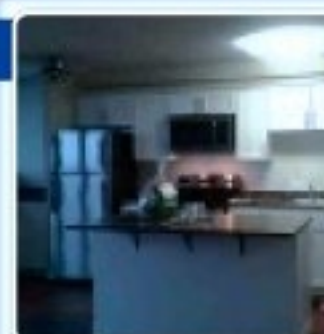
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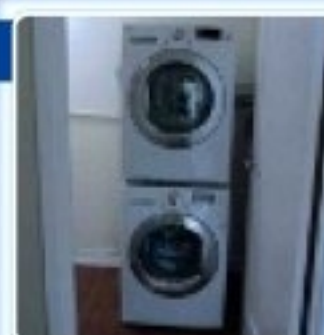
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For Metro Canada

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Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 6 hours 10 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 6 chicken thighs
- 1 potato, peeled and cubed
- 1 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 onions, chopped
- 4 stalks celery, chopped
- 2 carrots, peeled and chopped
- 1 Tbsp fresh thyme (1 tsp dried)
- 1 or 2 bay leaves
- 1/4 cup flour
- 2 cups low-sodium chicken stock
- 1 cup fresh or frozen peas
- 1/2 cup light cream

Directions

1. In a Dutch oven or high-sided skillet, sauté onions, celery and carrots in splash of vegetable oil for about five minutes.

2. Add flour, thyme and bay leaves and stir for a minute. Add stock and stir until smooth. Simmer for 3 or 4 minutes until sauce thickens.

3. Add the potatoes and good pinch of salt and pepper.

4. Place chicken thighs in the bottom of slow cooker and spoon the vegetable mixture over. Seal and set for 6 hours.

5. Add peas and cream and cook for 10 more minutes. Serve plain or over mashed potatoes.

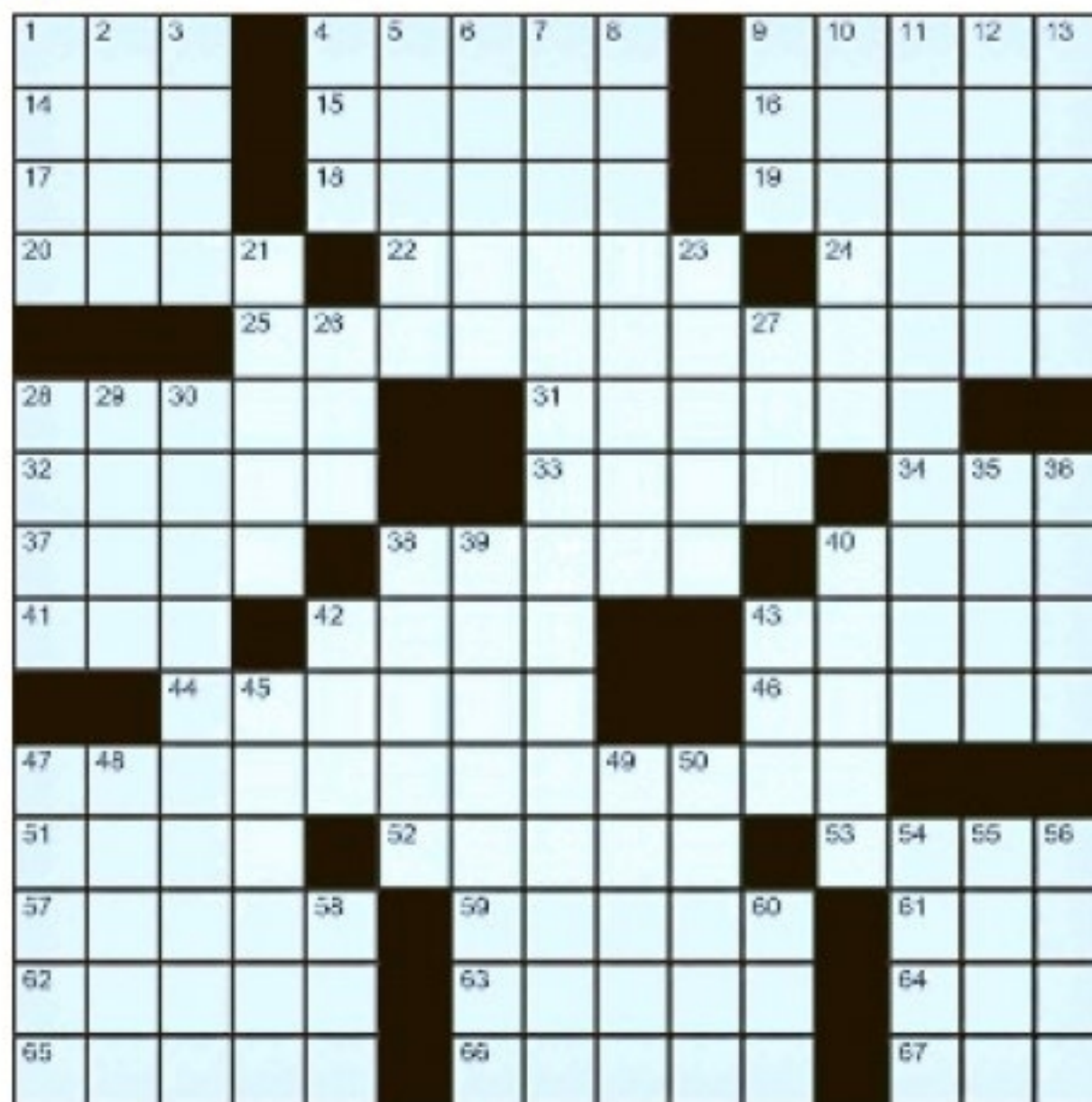
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ACROSS

1. "Fancy that!" [pl.]
4. Genesis brother's namesakes
9. "Pretty Little _"
14. Collagen target
15. Medical gig for George Clooney on '90s TV: 2 wds.
16. "I challenge you to _!" (Sword-fight starter)
17. Caustic solution
18. Princes' " _ the Times"
19. Gladiator's 351
20. Goes off course
22. High wave
24. _ can (One-of-some spotted in the pantry)
25. Canadian scientist (b.1862 - d.1941) who was a recent Google Doodle: 2 wds.
28. Penned up
31. Swimsuits brand
32. Overturn
33. Street sort
34. Goose egg
37. Twisted
38. Sheathes, as with metal
40. Ms. Home
41. Tree chopper
42. Elinor _ (British romance novelist)
43. Devoutness
44. Facing
46. Some chocolate treats
47. Irving _ Inc., headquartered in Halifax
51. Prefix with 'are' (Land measure)
52. Contempt
53. Heartbeat read-outs, commonly
57. The Hunter constellation



59. Green Day's "When _ Around"
61. Small battery
62. Happen as a result
63. Toast in a tavern!
64. PC information units
65. _ voce (Softly)

66. Particular sports network awards
67. Iris locale

DOWN

1. " _ McBeal"
2. "Howdy!": 2 wds.
3. Disgorge

4. Bronze Roman money
5. Nova Scotia island in the area of the Gulf of Maine and Bay of Fundy
6. Artist Mr. Degas
7. Section of the Rideau Canal with three vessel lift stations which

- are numbered 14, 15 and 16: 3 wds.
8. Keeping-track-of-game-points aid
9. Lake: French
10. Personhood proof: 2 wds.
11. "Going once, going twice..." professional
12. "The Beachcomb-

- ers" character
13. Embark embarrassedly
21. " _ of a Woman" (1992)
23. Utopias
26. Math verb
27. Wide shoe width
28. Havana's locale
29. Top
30. Occupation of #25-Across, Botanist/_
35. Go _ detail (Elaborate)
36. Potato chips brand
38. North Pole surname
39. Put words to music as Tim Rice, Brit-style
40. Vassal
42. American Pres. monogram after Bill Clinton
43. Cook's need
45. Decide not to enroll or select: 2 wds.
47. Sandals and sneakers
48. "Tell _" by The Zombies
49. Sag
50. When flowers begin to bloom: 2 wds.
54. Candles-topped dessert
55. Eva's "Desperate Housewives" character, to pals
56. Mailing encl.
58. Retro's opposite
60. Pro golfer Ernie

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Don't get hung up on the fact that you feel a bit lonely or cut off from others today. It's just one of those things. We all have days like this. Plus, lots of people feel this way today.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Relations with friends or members of groups might be a bit strained or detached and cool today. Don't take this personally. It's not you. It's the spores in the air.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
There's no question that relations with authority figures are strained today. Knowing this, it's not a day to ask for a favour or permission, is it?

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Travel for pleasure seems to be a bit more like work today. Ditto for exploring educational opportunities. Struggle on.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You might be disappointed in your fair share of something today. "That's it?" Don't worry, because in a day or two, things will swing back in your favor.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Relations with partners and close friends are detached today. One tends to think, "What am I getting out of this relationship compared to what I'm putting into it?"

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your interactions with co-workers could be better. Others are not inclined to help you or go along with things. You might even feel the same way. Just coast today.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a bummer day for romantic relationships, because people tend to think, "What's in it for me?" This is not a giving day — it's quite the opposite.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Today your ideas about redecorating or making improvements at home might be halted, because the cost of things is just prohibitive. Wait a week to see what you think later.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Relations with daily contacts are strained today. In fact, you feel unloved and unappreciated. Oh well. This too, shall pass. (You are loved.)

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Something to do with your finances (business or personal) disappoints you today. Well, you are not alone. Many people feel a financial squeeze play right now.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Today you are more concerned with practical realism as opposed to touchyfeely matters. Frankly, you simply have to work with what you've got. Today, you're on your own.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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Blind Spot Detection	✓	✗	✗
Rear Cross-Traffic Alert	✓	✗	✗
5 Year Warranty	✓	✗	✗

Lease for only
\$59
Weekly

At
0%

For
36 Months

With \$750 down or trade-in equivalent⁹

The New 2017 Tucson 2.0 Premium AWD



Ultimate model shown •

Lease for only
\$79
Weekly

At
0%

For
36 Months

With \$1,500 down or trade-in equivalent⁹

	Hyundai Tucson Premium AWD	Honda CR-V LX AWD	Toyota RAV4 LE AWD
Heated Steering Wheel	✓	✗	✗
Heated Front & Rear Seats	✓	✗	✗
Blind Spot Detection	✓	✗	✗
5 Year Warranty	✓	✗	✗

The New 2017 Santa Fe Sport 2.4L FWD



Ultimate model shown •

Finance for only
\$79
Weekly

At
0.9%

For
84 Months[†]

With \$2,000 down or trade-in equivalent

	Hyundai Santa Fe Sport 2.4L FWD	Chevy Equinox FWD	Toyota RAV4 LE FWD
Heated Front Seats	✓	✗	✓
17" Alloy Wheels	✓	✓	✗
Hill Descent Control	✓	✗	✗
5 Year Warranty	✓	✗	✗

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**5 YEAR[†]
WARRANTY**

5-YEAR/100,000 KM
comprehensive limited warranty

5-YEAR/100,000 KM
Powertrain Warranty

5-YEAR/100,000 KM
Emission Warranty

5-YEAR/UNLIMITED KM
24h Roadside Assistance

*The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. †Leasing offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2017 Elantra GL Auto/2017 Tucson 2.0L Premium AWD with an annual lease rate of 0%. Weekly lease payment of \$59/\$79 for a 36-month walk-away lease. Down payment of \$750/\$1,500 and first monthly payment required. Trade-in value may be applied to down payment amount. Total lease obligation is \$9,954/\$13,822. Lease offers include Delivery and Destination charges of \$1,695/\$1,795. Any dealer admin. fees, registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, licence fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. \$0 security deposit on all models. 16,000 km allowance per year applies. Additional charge of \$0.12/km. †Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on the 2017 Santa Fe Sport 2.4L FWD models with an annual finance rate of 0.9%. Weekly payments are \$79 for 84 months. \$2,000 down payment required. Trade-in value may be applied to down payment amount. Cash price is \$30,627. Cost of borrowing is \$224. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination charge of \$1,895. Any dealer admin. fees, registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, licence fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. †Price of models shown: 2017 Elantra Ultimate/2017 Tucson 1.6T Ultimate/2017 Santa Fe Sport 2.0T Ultimate are \$30,494/\$40,394/\$46,494. Prices include Delivery and Destination charges of \$1,695/\$1,795/\$1,895. Any dealer admin. fees, registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, licence fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. ††Offers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. Visit www.hyundaicanada.com or see dealer for complete details. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.